PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Jeff L. Ellsworth

Serial No.

10/680,673

Filed

: October 7, 2003

For

METHODS FOR ADMINISTERING FGF18

Confirmation No.:

5506

Examiner

: Romeo, David S.

Art Unit

: 1615

Docket No.

: 02-21

Date

: November 6, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

The Restriction Requirement mailed October 6, 2006, has been received and reviewed.

The Office Action sets forth a restriction requirement under 35 USC §121. Applicants were requested to elect one of two designated groups as briefly noted below:

- I. Claims 1-8, drawn to a composition comprising FGF-18 and hyaluronic acid, classified in class 530, subclass 350.
- II. Claims 9-26, drawn to a method of increasing chondrocyte proliferation with a composition comprising fgf-18 and hyaluronic acid, classified in class 514, subclass 12.

In response to the Requirement for Restriction Election, Applicants elect without traverse Group II, claims 9-26, drawn to methods of increasing chondrocyte proliferation, classified in class 514, subclass 12.

Application Serial No.: 10/680,673

Response to Restriction Requirement

2

The Office Action sets forth a further species restriction requirement.

Applicants were requested to elect one of low molecular weight hyaluronans, high molecular

weight hyaluronans, sulfated proteoglycans, B-cyclodextrin tetradecasulphate,

hydroxyapatite, chitosans, and methylcellulose. Also, for the species that applicants choose

to elect, applicants are required to further elect such species in the form of a solution, a gel, a

paste, or a putty. In response to the Requirement for Species Election, Applicants elect high

molecular weight hyaluronans in a solution.

It is believed that no fee is due. However, in the event that a fee is due, please

charge any fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 26-0290.

Early reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims under examination

are respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would

expedite prosecution of the above-identified patent application, please call the undersigned at

(206) 442-6627.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle L Lewis

Michelle L. Lewis

Registration No. 36,352

Customer No. 10117 ZymoGenetics, Inc.